Hello everyone, I'm Neko Shadows.I was the artist who made the first set of Neko Koda's female stills and the first female design of her character. I'm here to give my experience with her.

I was quite hesitant on doing this for quite the long while; but now that I see that Koda has gotten herself into quite the hot water…again, I think now is the best time to finally give out my testimony on what an awful friend and person she is so she can hopefully be out of my mind and heart *forever*.

Allow me to start at the beginning. Me and her were friends for a good while and she commissioned me to design a female version of her OC at the time, which I gladly did. Everything was fine for a while and then she eventually commissioned me to make her stills; I was going through a fair bit of burnout at the time so it took me around a month or so to finish all 8 stills. Everything again, was good up until a certain point.

Koda made a video about how much she disliked the pilot for the (at the time of this document being written) upcoming series, Hazbin hotel. This review…was disliked for several reasons; but those aren't important. This review was later on commentated on by the commentator Luckster, which I left a comment on. To quote my comment here;

"The fact that my art might be forever associated with this review leaves me in physical pain."

This was intended to be nothing more than a harmless joke that expressed my disdain for the review.

Now yes, looking back on this comment years later, I do think this comment was rather uncalled for. It was pretty rude and bluntly speaking, very fucking tasteless to say this about someone I was friends with at the time and I think this is the one part I fully did wrong here in this series of events.

But to get back on track, I got a reply to that comment that I thought was weird and decided to show Koda the reply and comment, again, thinking that it was just a harmless joke that got a weird reply.

We had a brief back and forth about the comment I made and I thought really nothing of it cause I thought it was just a minor disagreement between close friends…but then almost immediately after this exchange, when I tried to change the subject, Koda told me that she talked to…***OTHER*** people (aka, not me, the person that made the comment) and she came to the conclusion that I was "aggressive" and "unprofessional" in the comment and decided to stop using my stills over it.

I…was deeply hurt by this. To think that all of my hard work was going to be just thrown away like that like it was worth quite literally nothing to her…made me feel devastated. And the thought of this experience still makes me upset to this day. Hell, I don't even offer avatar

commissions anymore because of this experience because I just don't want to feel that same pain anymore.

I expressed a brief version of how hurt I felt to Koda and she just brushed my feelings off, telling me that I got money for the stills so she can do whatever she wanted with them.

This move was absolutely petty and callous in my opinion. To throw away something that your ***FRIEND*** worked on for so long after discussing something that ***THEY*** did with ***OTHER PEOPLE*** is just disgusting. And trying to ignore the feelings that your friend has because of some stupid monetary gain they had is both even more petty and just pathetic in my opinion.

And then less than an hour after she did this, in a bit that only feels like kicking somebody while they're down, Koda started to ask around for a new artist…in her discord server at the time…where I was also a fucking mod. I will attempt to give her at least some benefit of doubt and just assume she didn't have any malicious intentions when doing this and that she just did it without really thinking.

But…come on woman; time and fucking place is just not a concept to you? Or even too soon? Again, this was quite literally less than an hour after you threw my work away and acted callous towards me when I expressed my hurt. This felt like the literal definition of kicking a person while they were down, so maybe at least ask in places I wouldn't see so easily?

Anyways, after that, me and Koda stopped talking. Our friendship was basically destroyed after that incident.

I still felt horrible about what happened to me and my mental health took a hefty toll for a good while. I became more distrustful of people and was scared to talk to people and even make new friends out of the fear of something like what happened happening again to me. I couldn't even hear her name without bursting into tears over the memories about what happened between us for years after the fact. Hell…I couldn't even hear the name Koda in general without feeling some form of dread. This wasn't really even helped…*at all* by the fact that she just kept getting into shit repeatedly and I just had to hear her name over and over again…but that last part isn't terribly important so I'll just move on now.

Last year, around Christmas if memory serves me right, Koda released what is probably one of her most infamous videos, her "Burning Bridges" video.

What she truly intended with this video, I'll never know, but

; in that video, she claimed that Umbrus bringing up the previous events that were described previously as an example of her pattern of behavior she was displaying at the time (and continues to display) was actually just done in an attempt to make her look bad since the incident was previously completely private at that point.

Now, this was indeed done without my permission, but please do not give Umbrus grief for this as she has repeatedly apologized to me about this and I fully forgive her, since I do think her heart was in the right place.

After claiming that it was just done to make her look bad however, Koda gives, what I can only describe to be, the most backhanded apology I could ever receive in my life. It was just a really stupid “oh by the way if Neko Shadows is seeing this, I’m sorry.” What in the absolute hell am I supposed to take this as other than some form of damage control?

After this, I started to see red.

(Btw. If anyone has a link to a re-upload of the video that would be greatly appreciated so I can add it to this document as evidence at the bottom)

So, in an attempt to wipe my hands completely clean of her and any sign that I ever had any form of good will towards her off the face of the internet; I confronted Koda in Discord DMs demanding for the rights to the character I made back.

This exchange was, in the best terms I can think of, exhausting.

She would not stop complaining that I would be taking her brand away from her; which I wasn’t, I just wanted the character back; and would repeatedly dig in her heels about the issue, complaining on how unfair it was…even though the thing that she did to ***ME*** that ruined our friendship was completely unfair, but details. I offered her a basic refund for the character design that I made and she AGAIN started to dig in her heels about it, claiming I was gonna take her brand.

Though eventually I got her to at least start negotiating a price for the character back…and she wanted over $100 for the character initially…because of the stills I made and other art she commissioned from me…that were completely unrelated to the character design itself.

I pointed out how that price point was completely ridiculous and ***EVENTUALLY*** got her down to $50…which is still more than I would have liked since the character was around $30, but I figured this was the lowest I could get her to go and frankly; I just wanted that whole spat to just end as soon as possible since I’m not naturally a confrontational person, so I just gave up and gave her the $50.

So happy times, I have my character back and she’s gonna be just done, right?

Yeah no, she didn’t.

I found out through a friend of mine a short while later that Koda got a “redesign” of “her character”…the same exact one that I paid a good amount of money for. My blood was ***BOILING*** at this point. Especially since the most that the redesign did was just give my

character a different outfit and barely anything else. It was a blatant rip-off of my character. And just to rub salt into the wound, she got the design (and a few stills) from someone I actually was fine with at the time…who also fully knew what she did to me. I don't wanna fully blame the artist (who is infamous themselves, but who exactly they are isn't important) for this since they were just doing their job as an artist.

I tried again to confront Koda (on an Alt account of hers) about this, but this really went nowhere; since she endlessly tried to play semantics games with me on how the design isn't a rip-off of my character at all and yada yada yada.

While this was going on, Koda actually was attempted to make this private spat public. Which was completely awful in my opinion since at the time, I didn't have any social media accounts due to events in my private life besides my YouTube account, so I wouldn't even be able to properly defend myself; though luckily, the artist managed to convince Koda to not go through with that idea.

I eventually just decided to drop it cause I just decided this hill just wasn't worth dying on since I was just totally exhausted and just wanted it all to be over with as soon as possible. I apologized to Koda and the artist about the whole thing.

That's all I can fully offer at this time. All the proof I will need is in the links below this documentation, so I hope I can just get my story out there.

If I can give out my full thoughts on Koda; you and your apologies mean nothing to me. You're one of the absolute worst friends I have ever had and I hope you are never able to run away from the consequences of your actions now like you're trying to do. You're an absolute coward for this cause rather than face the consequences of the shit you pulled, like threatening to doxx a ***MINOR*** over really petty shit, you just decide to run away and hide.

I hope this story follows and haunts you till the day the internet or social media stops being a thing.

Proof of Experiences

General Proof of my Experience:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1f6vyNcp4yUSRlqT51FY18-pVf6wW-nIB

The Character Refund Saga:

Part 1: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14WtvWcDxJuxJEa3gzKc_z-2Kf-x7fWeK (I apologize for the name of this drive in particular, I was very heated at the time of making this)

Part 2: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-25CaJ80TP1-RsyyfEK06JuLNqLha5E5

Koda Attempting to Make the Character Saga Public Despite it Being Entirely Private at that Point:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1-AKE139819gtgw_qzqxHkA2hkj6pMrFD